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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/625,157	07/23/2003	Mark Bendett	GK-ZEI-3215/ 500343.20226	7991
26418	7590	02/22/2006	EXAMINER	
REED SMITH, LLP ATTN: PATENT RECORDS DEPARTMENT 599 LEXINGTON AVENUE, 29TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10022-7650			FARAH, AHMED M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3735	

DATE MAILED: 02/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 34 and 37- 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mourou et al. U.S. patent No. 5,656,186.

Mourou et al. disclose apparatus and methods of use for applying laser beams onto a tissue, the apparatus comprising a pulsed laser, wherein the laser pulse has a wavelength of between 770 nm to 800 nm (see col. 5, line 26 and col. 8, line 29), a pulse width of 10 to 100 fs (col. 2, lines 32-40 and col.8, line 33), pulse energy of 0.001 to 10 nJ, and frequency of 250 to 350 KHz (col. 4, line 35).

As to claim 40, Mourou et al. teach that the pulsed laser beams are scanned over the target area (see claim 25, step c).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 41-43 are again rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mourou et al. in view of Gerlach et al. U.S. Patent No. 6872,202.

Mourou et al., described above, do not teach the use of a fiber laser or disk laser, or their combination thereof. However, the use of different laser, such as a fiber or disk laser to treat a material is well known in the art. Gerlach et al. teach an ophthalmic laser device wherein the radiation source is selected from the group consisting of a diode laser, fiber laser, etc. Therefore, at the time of the applicant's invention, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to use a fiber or disk laser as an equivalent alternative source to provide the treatment energy.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 24, 25, 28, 29, 31-33 and 44-46 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on November 30, 2005, have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants argue that Mourou et al. (US Patent No. 5,656,186), fails to teach or suggest "beam devices for beam shaping and/or **beam control** and/or beam deflection and/or **beam focusing**" as recited in amended claim 34.

In response to this argument, Figures 5 and 6 of Mourou et al. clearly show beam focusing lenses. Furthermore, as shown in the title, the invention of Mourou et al. is

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directed to a Method for Controlling Configuration of Laser Induced Breakdown and Ablation."

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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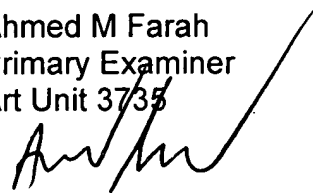
the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ahmed M. Farah whose telephone number is (571) 272-4765. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur. 9:30 AM-7:30 PM, and 9:30 AM - 6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ali Imam can be reached on (571) 272-4737. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ahmed M Farah
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3735



February 19, 2006.